

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, the specification and claims 1 and 3-8 have been amended to improve form and claim 2 is now included in claim 1 and thus is canceled. No new matter has been presented, and accordingly, approval entry of the foregoing specification in claim amendments are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3-8 are pending and under consideration.

ITEM 3: Rejection of claims 1-8 for anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) by Takagi (USP 6,754,507); and

ITEMS 5-8: Rejections of claim 4-8 for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Takagi in view of, variously, Ibaraki et al. (USP 5,681,176), Toedter (USP 5,394,297), Takagi, alone (Items 7 as to claim 6 and 7) and Kobayashi et al. (USP 5,103,377).

The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Takagi is essential to each of the above anticipation and obviousness rejections; as explained below, Takagi, the sole inventor of the cited reference (i.e. Takagi (USP '507) is a co-inventor of the present application; clearly, Takagi USP '507 does not disclose the subject matter of the claims of this application.

Particularly, the Examiner cites "insert member 140 Fig 7) to be inserted into the curled portion of the flexible flat cable (shown in Fig. 7)" (Action in Item 3, at page 3). That reading is altogether in error.

To the contrary of the Examiner's erroneous interpretation of the structure of Takagi USP '507, member 140 in Fig. 7 is one of two hinge modules 140, 141 (See col. 10, lines 49-62) and which clearly are not inserted into the curled portion of the flexible cable 154. See, e.g., in Fig. 10, the flexible cable 154 having a loop 154a in the middle, the same being contained within the hinge 103 (see col. 11, lines 4-14).

In Item 3 at page 3, the Examiner further cites "a limiting mechanism (next to 140, Fig. 7; not labeled) is provided for limiting the movement of the insert member".

It is believed clear that since Takagi (USP '507) has no insertable member, there clearly is no mechanism for limiting the movement of the non-existent insertable member.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Takagi (USP '507) is irrelevant to the present claimed invention as defined in each of claim 1 and in the dependent claims 3-8.

None of the cited references discloses or even suggests any member which is insertable into the curled portion of the flexible flat cable. Moreover, claim 1 are now amended to include the limitations of claim 2/1, expressly defines the hinge mechanism to comprise two portions which are spaced apart in the axial direction and between which the curled portion of the flexible flat sheet and the insertable member are provided.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims patentability distinguish over the references of record, taking singly or in any proper combination. Further, There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

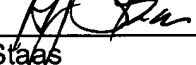
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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